

Application No. 09/636,286

RD-27791

REMARKS

Claims 32 to 40 are pending.

This Amendment cancels claims 1, 4 to 5, 8 to 9 and 20 to 31 and adds new claims 32 to 40. The new claims are based on claims indicated to be allowable or claims dependent from the allowable claims.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 to 9, 20, 22 to 23, 27 and 29 to 30 and 8 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over "Applicant's prior art teaching" and Palmquist. The Final Rejection indicated allowability of claim 28. New independent claim 32 is the same as allowable claim 28 rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of base claim 20 and any intervening claims (none). New independent claim 32 should be allowable. Claims 33 to 40 depend from the allowable independent claim 32 and hence, should be allowable.

Furthermore, the November 19, 2003 Advisory Action in this case indicated that the claims of Applicants' first Amendment after Final Rejection did not encompass allowable subject matter "except for claims 32-40..." Hence for this additional reason, claims 32 to 40 should be allowable.

The substance of all the claims was indicated to be allowable. Hence, this Amendment adds no new issues. The Amendment cancels claims, thus eliminating appeal issues. Desirability of the Amendment became apparent only upon review of the pending Final Rejection and the instant Advisory Action. The Amendment places the application in condition for allowance. Thus, entry of the Amendment is requested under 37 CFR §1.116.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of claims 32 to 40 are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, he is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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